

Testimony regarding HB 5653

To the Honorable Members of the Finance Committee:

I would like to add my voice in asking you to oppose HB 5653.

This is not the first time the notion of excessively taxing ammunition has been raised. Fortunately, in the past this concept has failed to advance out of committee. But like many bad ideas, this one refuses to go away.

To suggest that folks who purchase ammunition bear some sort of responsibility for violence in our community makes about as much sense as holding forth that people who purchase motor fuel, or alcoholic beverages bear a disproportionate responsibility for the tragedy of drunk driving.

It simply doesn't compute. Unless, of course, the purpose of the HB 5653 ammo tax is to punish regular folks who like to spend a day at the range.

People shouldn't be targeted simply because they disagree with some legislator's vision of the world. It's simply a question of fairness.

If funding of Community Violence programs is a good idea, and I'm not saying it isn't, then the funding should be part of the budget, not the sort of "Free Lunch" being proposed with this bill.

Please vote no on Bill 5653, Proposed Excise tax on ammunition.

Thank you.

Jeffrey Moores

Farmington CT